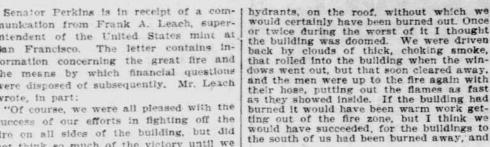
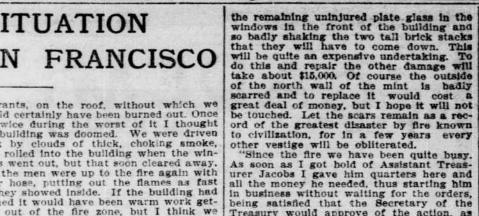
THE FINANCIAL SITUATION AT SAN FRANCISCO

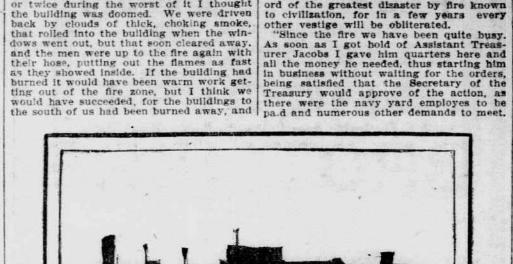
munication from Frank A. Leach, superintendent of the United States mint at
San Francisco. The letter contains information concerning the great fire and
the means by which financial questions
were disposed of subsequently. Mr. Leach were disposed of subsequently. Mr. Leach

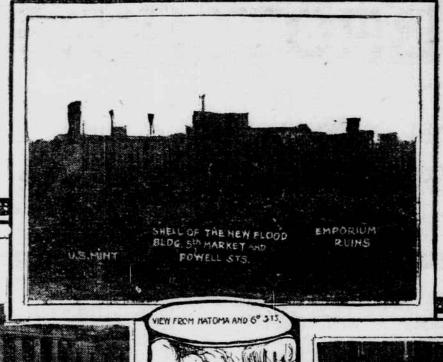
success of our efforts in fighting off the fire on all sides of the building, but did not think so much of the victory until we onw the benefits to follow to the stricken community when we began to open the vaults and turn out the millions. I assure you we then found the greatest pleasure in the knowledge that the mint was affording not only a nucleus for the immediate resumption of business, but also the means for immediate relief of much dis-

"We were glad to know that our work effords gratification, and it is pleasing to me, for I am very proud of my men. There was not a whimper among them. Every man stuck to his post where I placed him, though some of them knew at the time that their own homes were in the path









the distribution of the millions sent here.

"Another responsibility which has arisen is the receipt and disbursement of the relief fund. I have organised a system to handle the money, the counting of which alone is quite a task, as it is coming in in all kinds of shapes from nickels to big bills. Yesterday we recived fifty-one packages of relief money from all parts of the United States. It will take two days to count it.

"I think the big work in handling the transfers from the east is nearly over, but that work has kept my clerk, two typewriters, three clerks, the cashier's office and several men on the keen jump from 8 to 5 o'clock. We recived \$23,101,456 in the last ten days and have paid out \$11,021,500.

"This business was all new to us, and, while we may not have handled it according to the latest and most approved banking to the latest and most approved bank-ing methods, it was all transferred (amid no little confusion caused by the crowds in the building) without error or unne delay. Everybody entered into the spirit of the thing, and I guess people in general were satisfied.

"We had the mint ready for business as soon as it was ready for us, two or three days after the fire. By Saturday we had improvised an electric light plant by changing one of our big motors into a generator and had the building and streets outside lighted up all night. It helped to add a little cheerfulness to the field of desolation and ruin surrounding us, especially to those encamped in our neighborhood, and they were many. Our artesian water supply, besides saving the building, proved a priceless blessing to thousands after the fire. We fixed up a supply pipe for the public on the outside, and there is still a throng of people availing themselves of it, but the greatest gratification derived from it was during some hours after the fire when there was no water to be had anywhere around.

'We are not attempting to do any coin-



of the flames. Before the climax came and the fire closed in on the north and last side (where it was the hottest, about 2 o'clock p.m.). I let three men go, leaving me fifty-one men and ten soldiers under the command of Lieut. Armstrong. One of the three men who left was an old man and sick, one an officer of the National Guard, and the other I sent with a message to my house. The force remaining I divided up into squads, placing them on the different floors from the basemen; to of the fames. Before the climax came

"Sometime ago the idea came to me that venlently around the building, we would be ered the damage to our building by the diswith a good pump and the hose placed conveniently around the building, we would be received from any fire originating in the building, and it was only about ten days before the great fire that we put in the last

we probably would have had to endure only

5" AND MISSION STS THE DAY AFTER THE FIRE

divided up into squads, placing them on the different floors from the basement to the roof, and with hose streams and buckets they won the fight, but not until the old building was severely scarred on the north side, the stones of the walls being chipped and flaked by the heat, every window being burned out there. A section of the roof over the westerly side was partially burned off before we could subdue the flames, but inside the building the damage was slight.

*

told, fared better than the rest, losing only some of the paint. Good work was done there, though, in fighting the fire cutside as well as inside, and they were favored by the large vacant space on the east, where the old post office building had stood, and by the wind, which blew from the northmethod when the fire came up on the southwest when the fire came in the north end of the building, and blew from the southwest when the fire came in the north end the following day. The block in front of the building bounded by Washington, Jackson, Sansome and Montgomery streets, was not burned. gomery streets, was not burned.

sand Gollars would have cov-

ranging a plan for giving the banks the large sums they had had transferred to them here. The money was here, but they had no place to put it while disbursing it to their clients. A committee of the Bank-ers' Association came to me and wanted to check it out. Of course, that was impossible, as we were not equipped with either men or books for a banking busi-ness, so after some conference, it was ar-ranged that they should organize a bank of the banks, select a corps of five or six men from the different banks to do the work, and I should turn over to this bank, which, for a title, was called the Clearing House Bank, the transfer funds as needed,

One of the hardest nuts to crack was ar- age, for a great part of our force is employed in the other work, paying transfers, guarding the building (I have an extra force on guard) and making repairs. By the way, I am going to ask the director to apply for \$10.000 additional for watchmen for the ensuing year.

"I had to arrange to house and feed a ot of my men who were burned out besides, the guard had to remain at the building, as it was so difficult to go and come. One day we fed 121 persons, but now we have got the number down to fifteen or twenty, and in a little while that trouble will be over.

"I trust you will have opportunity to ex-

WEST WASHINGTON IN THE EARLY DAYS

EFORE 1800 that portion of Washington in the neighborhood of Pennsylvania avenue and 20th street was the scene of some building operations. The fact that the ground valuation north of the avenue was twenty-five cents a foot, and there it was surmounted by a belfry, in which had been erected by 1802 buildings on all was a bell. Away back in the thirties some was a bell. Away back in the thirties some the lots fronting I street between 20th and 21st streets save one shows that the property owners were enterprising. Above this point but six buildings had been erected, and on the sources easiward were seven plished the difficult feat and the effigy re-21st streets save one shows that the propand on the squares eastward were seven buildings on the avenue, and some improvements had been made on I street. The locallty assumed additional importance when northwest corner of the triangle made by the lines of the avenue, 20th and I streets, in 1803, and the apparatus of the old Union Fire Company was located the following year. In fact it may be said that at the period when the Irish poet bestowed the title of "city of magnificent distances" on Washington in the early part of the last century this section possessed some of the characteristics of a small town. There was the well-known O'Neal tavern, a wood-yard, several groceries, blacksmith and wheelwright shops and shoe shops within a few hundred yards of 20th and 1 streets. where was located in 1803 the West Market, with its town hall for meeting purposes.

The establishment of public markets was among the powers granted the corporation by the act of May 3, 1802. Under this the old Center, or "Marsh" market was creeted in the latter part of that year under the act of the councils of October 6. This latter act provided that whenever a majority of residents west of the President's house petitioned for a market the mayor should petitioned for a market the mayor should establish one as soon thereafter as a convenient market house was erected by them. That the residents soon thereafter had a market of their own is shown by the scales, weights and measures being provided for March, 1803, with the appointment of a approvisor for the market days set on Mondays. Wednesdays and Fridays, and subsequently Saturday evenings, for nearly fifty years. This structure was originally about twenty by forty feet, the lower pertion of brick plers and the upper part was a hall for general purposes. With the increase of population more facilities for trade were provided, an extension was built on the rear, and afterward the full length of the building was inclosed by a high fence to the north building. high fence to the north building line of Fennsylvania avenue. Mr. Phillip Willliams was the first market master, and this position he retained till 1835. He was also engaged in the grocery business at his residence on the south side of I street between 20th and 21st streets. He was succeeded by W. William Streets between 20th and 21st streets. ceeded by Mr. William Sirren, who lived south of the avenue on I street, and he served until the building was destroyed by

There were among the butchers in the early part of the country some who lived in Funkstown, as Hamburgh, the settle-ment southward, was known before the city was planned. Among such were M. Eckhart, P. Goodyer, and Fritz Hagar, Other butchers were Eli Palmer, Henry Walker, Wm. Linkins, John Hoover, John Berry, the Weavers and Emersons. Some of these men had their slaughter houses but a few hundred yards away located on Slash run. Most of the fruit and vegetable gardens, the produce from which was sold n the market, were northward, usually taking up entire squares of ground. These

In the early part of the century so generally did the residents raise their own prod-uce, milk and eggs that few dealers in

Company was housed in the west end until the removal of the company to its new house at 19th and H streets in 1839. The meetings of the company were mostly held here and the fire drills were always west of the building and the triangle once a common was worn smooth by frequent use. The second story was used as a hall, and

of the boys who annually before St. Patrick's day put up a "stuffed paddy," made had besten it to atoms. The town hall was probably the most pop-ular hall in the District. It was utilized

for many purposes. It was a school room, in which many received at least a part of their education from a Mr. Allison and other teachers; in municipal elections it be-came a polling booth, after it had served as the meeting place for the nomination of candidates for office; in the days of Lorenzo Dow it was to some extent his church, for he expounded the gospel here to crowds; it was also used for temperance railles, particularly during and after the Washingtonian movement; for balls, parties and fairs, in which ladies engaged; for political and club meetings, and in fact whenever it was desired to interest the second of that second and a ball was people of that section, and a hall was needed the old town hall came into play.

were department people; Dr. G. Cozens, Wm. O'Neale, jr., Nathan Moore.. Robert Frazler, Fred Phillip, Abram and Matthew Hines, Thomas Herbert, S. Sandiford, Wm. O'Neale, Joseph Brumley, George Walker, John Rawlings, J. M. Maus, Wm. Godfrey, Aaron Nalley, Julius Watkins, W. Worth-ington, Thos. Sandiford, John Davidson, W. Anderson, jr., James Lowry, Thomas Crown, James Williams, J. B. Timberlake, James Baker, James A. Kennedy, John Kennedy, W. Linkins, James Sandiford, Jesse Baker, J. L. Crosby, Benjamin Strong, W. Worthington, jr., S. Harkness, jr., A. C. Moore, John Thompson, John Williams, L. Brengie, John Barcroft, John Williams, L. Brengie, John Barcroft, John Ruske, Leiberger, J. W. Westers, L. Burke, John Rich, J. N. Waters, L. Lepreux, John Palmer, S. R. Waters, W. Ford, W. Burket, John Mattingly, James Hodnett, Thomas Cook and James Watson. While this portion of the city was grad-ually building up in population there was also taking root a feeling antagonistic to public markets. By 1850 many of the grocers were dealing in fresh meats, fruits and vegetables, and the term "green grocer" was grafted on the language. So con-venient had these been found that with many the public market was not needed. Though in the immediate vicinity of the market house there were taverns, grocery stores and shops, the most of the were the homes of prominent well-to-do people and to some the market appeared out of place. Such soon after were grat-ified, for, as previously stated, the building was destroyed by fire on February 1, 1852, and there was some suspicion that it was

The ruins for a few days were an unsightly spectacle, but after the lines of the triangles had been set, under the authority of Congress, the debris was removed. Ef-Notwithstanding its general uses there forts were made for the erection of a mar-were organizations, including secret so-



GADSBY'S ROW, 21ST AND PENNSYLVANIA AVE. N. W.

As the hall of the old Union Fire Company whose apparatus was housed on the market floor at the west end it was widely known. Among those who prior to 1820 were often participants in meetings here were the members of the fire company, whose roster bore the names of Thomas Munroe, former Commissioner, then city

cieties, which met there—Hiram Lodge of Masons, Friendship Lodge of Odd Fellows and Marion Division, Sons of Temperance. was located in K street between 19th and 20th, which remained till about 1870, when the board of public works improved K street and a new market was established at 21st and K streets.

Certificates for the purchase of the lots

on which Gadsby's or McBlair's row stands were issued to Jacob Gilchrist and Jacob Weich in 1791. Before 1800 lots 9 and 10 went into the hands of William O'Neale, who had on them a boarding house valued at \$3,000, and a small dwelfwere required, but with increasing population the trade increased. Among those who dealt in green stuff were Mrs. Biggs, Mrs. Fullalove, Jack M. Conkey, Mrs. Shorthale, and John Douglass. In the butter and egg trade were R. Cruitt, John Coburn, Thos. Triplet, and J. C. Fearson. Charley Shorter and his wife were promitten there then, the first-named as a general trillity man, and the wife at the cookstand, and some today recall that Shorter's doughnuts have never been excelled.

Mulloce, former Commissioner, then city accounts the city in postmaster; Thomas Carberry, surveyor, and a first was brothed; in gvalued at \$20.00. John Billoch, the city in gvalued at \$2.00. John Billoch, and afterward conductec by Samuel Stott, Then of Rev. Obadiah Brown, long pastor of the First Baptist Church, purchased the corner house and resided there some years. Lot 1, at the corner of 20th street and the venue was owned by P. Barton Key, on which was a \$200 building. The famous "O'Neale's tavern" was next adjoining Mr. Key's property, and it was assessed at \$2.00. John Potts, \$1.000 on property southwest of Hines gro-toner house and resided there some years. Lot 1, at the corner of 20th street and the venue was owned by P. Barton Key, on which was a \$200 building. The famous "O'Neale's tavern" was next adjoining Mr. Key's property, and it was assessed at \$2.000 on property southwest of Hines' gro-toner house and resided there some years. Lot 1, at the corner of 20th street and the venue was owned by P. Barton Key, on which was a \$200 building. The famous "O'Neale's tavern" of the were the property on which were \$1.000 improvements: Dr. John Bullar, \$000; John Potts, H. Barnes, \$2.000. Westward, Joseph Mechlin owned property on which were \$1.200 improvements: Dr. John Bullar, \$000; Timothy Caldwell, \$1.200; Benjamin Coombs, \$1.000.

The apparatus of the old Union Fire

christ, near Mr. O'Neale's dwelling, was

vacant.

The requirement of a roadway to the then only public burial ground east of Rock creek in that section, established in 1807, necessitated the opening of 20th and 21st streets by the corporation. It may be said that this opening consisted simply of cutting a wagon road.

By 1820 there had been some changes of the property in this square as to owners

After the war of 1812 the property in the west end of the square was greatly im-proved by Mr. O'Neale. His frame hotel had become a favorite resort for promi-nent people of the south, Senator Williams and Representatives Claiborne, Hogg, Marr and Rhea of Tennessee being among his earliest guests, and afterward came Gen. Andrew Jackson, Gen. Eaton and others. Mr. O'Neale was popular not only because of his personality but because of his interesting family.

It was about 1823 that the Franklin House, at the corner of 21st street, passed from Mr. O'Neale into the hands of Mr. John Gadsby, who had been engaged in the business in Alexandria and Baltimore, and for seven years he conducted it. The National Hotel Company, having in 1828 completed the hostelry at 6th street and Pennsylvania avenue, Mr. Gadsby was induced to take its management, and presided there a number of years. The old Franklin House was then converted into has at all times been characterized by inspacious dwellings, and has since been known as Gadsby's or McBlair's row, and the descendants of Mr. Gadsby-the family of the late John H. McBlair still live there. Baron Stackelberg, the Swedish minister, Mrs. Commodore Patterson, R. K. Meade, father of General and of Admiral Meade, have also lived in the row.

Mr. O'Neale, on vacating the Franklin House, went back to his original tavern, or hotel, at 2003, which he conducted to the day of his death in 1837. His widow, Mrs. Rhoda O'Neale, continued the busi-ness until she died in 1860 at the age of

ninety years.

There were living on this square in the twenties Sir Stratford Channing, the British minister, and afterward Sir Charles Vaughn, who succeeded him, their residence being the house later occupied by Frank Marcoe of the State Department, which included No. 2020, owned by Owen O'Hare for fifty years or more. Robert J. Walker, Senator and Secretary of the Walker, Senator and Secretary of the Treasury; Gen. Eaton, Secretary of War; Rev. Dr. Smith Pyne, rector of St. John's; Major Graham, Gen. J. G. Totten. Col. J. J. Abert, J. S. Chilton, Commodore Ramsey, Thomas P. Morgan, Commodore Isaac Chauncey, Rev. C. A. Davis, Frank Marcoe and George Rhinehart also lived in this square in the early days. Behind in this square in the early days. Behind these houses there was quite a descent in the grade, and with the exception of some small habitations northward, occupied mostly by colored people and slaughter houses, near Slash run, little improvement was seen down to war times. The rear view of the lots fronting I street for a long time showed a dumping ground.

The square south of I street between 20th and 21st streets was valued at 5 cents per foot in the beginning of the century, as compared to 25 cents a foot for land in the square opposite. There was, however, some early settlement in this square. A few of the lots on the I street front had been sold prior to 1800, and there was some improvement. On this front Samuel Wilson was assessed \$500, Thomas Wilson, \$100; Samuel Harkness, \$400; Joseph Carlow, \$450; Phillip Williams, \$100; Daniel Bussard, \$150. About 1820 C. and M. Hines had property at the corner, the wellknown grocery kept -/ them for years, and house valued at \$3,000, and a small dwelfing valued at \$200. Joel Brown, a brother of Rev. Obadiah Brown, long pastor of the First Baptist Church, purchased the corner house and resided there some years. Lot 1, at the corner of 20th street and the avenue was owned by P. Barton Key, on which was a \$200 building. The famous "O'Neale's tavern" was next adjoining Mr. Key's property, and it was assessed at Jacob Colchart. Jacob Col afterward conducted by Samuel Stott, Then



THETHEATER

OMEDY held sway at the local playhouses the past week, the cool weather making for the comfort of theater patrons and likewise contributing to the good nature and material prosperity of the men in the box offices. One new piece that is just making its bid for popular approval and two plays, concerning whose fates doubt has long since been dissolved, were presented.

"The Embarrassment of Riches," which had its premier at the National Monday night, is the work of Louis Kaufman Anspacher, a professor of philosophy in Codeavored to build a play out of materials at an amateur entertainment and succeedfurnished by the career of a wealthy wom- ed so admirably that from that time on an philanthropist-at least, the principal female role is supposed to be a characterization of a rich and well-known woman of this country who has devoted a large share of her wealth and life to practical charities. In addition he has supplied, for the purpose of a sentimental interest, an enthusiastic young man, working for the moral, material and civic betterment of the unfortunate classes. Besides these characters the cast includes a fortune-hunting English duke, who occasionally has a flash of almost human intelligence; a brisk, ble. fashionable dame, a decidely insipid young daughter of society, a typical ward boss and grafter, a crusty and avaricious business man, a dandified youth, a hard young woman with an eye to the "main chance," and a common or garden variety of tough character. It would seem that a well-constructed comedy containing this heterogeneous array of types might reasonably hope to meet with success. As performed here on Monday night the piece did not arouse unwonted enthusiasm, but, doubtless, since that initial presentation certain well-defined defects noted at that time well-defined defects noted at that time have been corrected. The first act failed to create an absorbing interest and dragged somewhat, owing to a succession of Mr. MacLean tells of the relief he experienced in leaving Mr. Barreit, and he never afterward had the slightest desire to meet him. Mr. Booth, however, made up for all his disillusionment, for he found

season last evening. Chase's will continue fessional debut as a girl in 'a company through this week, and the Academy of Mrs. Wyndham, at the Theater Royal Music will provide melodramatic thrills to keep its patrons cool for several weeks yet. while burlesque will be in evidence at the Lyceum for some time. The stock companies at the Columbia and Belasco Theaters will continue to furnish entertairment for their patrons through the warm weather

BARRETT FROZE HIM.-R. D. Mac-Lean has had a wealth of experience during his career in the classic drama. Mr. MacLean made his stage debut when twenlumbia University. The author has en- ty-six years of age. He had played Brutus his one desire was to become an actor. Lawrence Barrett was consulted with a view to joining the latter's company Mr. Mac-Lean had long admired the associate of the great Booth, and received his first disappointment upon meeting Mr. Barrett, whom he describes as a cold man, whose very greeting froze his blood. Mr. Barrett in-quired of him in a business-like tone what he could do for him. Mr. MacLean replied that he wished to go on the stage.

"Hum! And why do you desire to be-come an actor?" asked Mr. Barrett in a voice which caused the amateur to trem-

"Because I think I have talent," answered Mr. MacLean, "and I am anxious to be with you because I have admired your work for so long." "Hum!" ejaculated Mr. Barrett, with an air of being excessively bored. "And how old are you?" continued Mr.

"Twenty-six," replied Mr. MacLean, "Why, my man, you are too old to begin a stage career. At your age you should be playing Romeo instead of holding a

Her first season on the stage saw her associated as leading juvenile actress with Charles Hatthews, the eminent English comedian, in the very last season of his career on the stage at the Theater Royal in Edinburgh. In the same season she was associated with James L. Toole, Bantman, the English tragedian, and with Horace Wigam, with whom she created the juvenile part in "Still Waters Run Deep." From Edinburgh she went to London for her second season on the stage. She was engaged by Col. Bateman, then manager of the old Lyceum, which afterwards became identified so strongly with the memory of the late Henry Irving. Miss Lewis was only a girl when she was with the Bateman forces.

Bateman forces.

After a season at the London Lyceum Miss Lewis came to the United States to play at the old New York Lyceum in the English company brought over by 'Tom' King, and made her debut there as 'Little Mirs Lewis" in the leading role, that of Esmeralda, in Hugo's "Notre Dame." She attracted the attention of the elder Wal-lack, who engaged her for leading lady with him at Wallack's Theater in a series of old and modern comedies, opening with "The Liar" and continuing in "Ours" and similar plays. In the Wallack company then were such players as Madame Ponisi, Harry Montague, John Gilbert, Ione Burke and W. J. Ferguson. After several seasons at Wallack's Miss Lewis went to Daly's old Fifth Avenue Theater, playing leading roles in a company which then in-cluded Fanny Davenport, John Drew, Mrs. Gilbert, Charles Fischer, Emily Rigl, George Clarke and James Lewis. While there she played all the leading Shake-spearean roles in the engagement of Booth. Daly starred her for nearly two seasons in "Pique." She made a tour to the Pacific coast under Daly's management and decided to remain in San Francisco as leadbe playing Romeo instead of holding a torch, as you would have to do in my company when 'Romeo and Juliet' is the bill. You are entirely too old. Good-morn-learning the same of the company when 'Romeo and Juliet' is the bill. You are entirely too old. Good-morn-learning the same rancisco as leading to remain in Sam Francisco as leading to remain the sam Francisco as leading to Mr. MacLean tells of the relief he ex- ger and playwright in 'Frisco, and at that



commonplace two-part dialogues. However, the play has an interesting love story, and really amusing comedy inciddents, while some of the character types are quite distinctly drawn. But it seems a safe assertion that Miss Kathryn Kidder would never have attained her present notable reputation as an actress had she appeared only in such parts as that of Elizabeth Holt, the wealthy woman philanthropist, verging on spinsterhood. That the management agreed with the public that the role is one not aptly suited to Miss Kidder, is evidenced in the announcement made yesterday that Miss Charlotte Walker will replace Miss Kidder in the cast. Mill Walker made her first appearance in the role of Elizabeth Holt last night. She has a charming personality and her acting telligent and sympathetic appreciation of the demands of the parts essayed. The change, no doubt, will add to the effectiveness of the piece. The role of John Russell, the reformer, was made strong, admirable and convincing as portrayed by Bruce McRae. More of Russell and his interests would have been accept able. J. W. Bunny gave a distinctly credthe great Hamlet all that his fancy had itable characterization of the ward boss. painted him, kind, generous, sympathetic and with the courtesy of the old-fashloned The production goes direct to New York

gentleman.

Needless to say Mr. MacLean failed to take Mr Barrett's discouraging ultimatum

too much to heart, and a very short while found him not only on the stage, but a star

joint starring engagement with Charles B. Hanford the latter fell ill, and Mr. MacLean

with Odette Tyler in Shakespearean plays. He has up to date appeared in but two

productions which varied from his usual role. One was "Phroso" and the other "The Heart of Maryland."

MISS LEWIS' VARIED STAGE CA-

REER.-Miss Jeffreys Lewis, the leading

character actress of the Columbia Theater

Company, has essayed almost every branch

of the play except grand and comic opera.

sister, Catherine Lewis, the prima donna.

stage without the aid of heredity, for none

the theater, and their parents were not

Their father was Richard Jeffreys Lewis, a distinguished English painten, who was an associate of the Royal Academy of Eng-

Born in London, Miss Jeffreys Lewis was

destined to play many parts in England, Australia and America. As far back as she can remember into her childhood she had a

"The Duke of Kilicrankle," which was presented by the Columbia Theater Company, is a sunny, airy bit of extravagance, at an age which was then considered ridicu-lously young for such a position. Mr. Mac-Lean was faithful to his preference for the classic drama and started in Shake-spearean plays. He has up to date played every drama of Shakespeare's with the ex-ception of Hamist and Bisheliau and or "farcical romance," that proved especially attractive. Mr. Guy Standing and Miss Dorothy Hammond appeared to excellent advantage in the roles created by John Drew and Margaret Dale in the original ception of Hamlet and Richelleu and he can repeat at a moment's notice all the production, and George Gaston and Jeffreys great roles, which he keeps carefully stored in his memory. One evening during a Lewis added to the laurels they have previously earned here. played Shylock with only a half-hour's re-hearsal. He was letter perfect. Mr. MacLean starred for some time with Modjeska in classic repertoire, and then

The Odette Tyler Company, at the Belas-

from here.

co, presented a decidedly entertaining comedy in Dion Bouckault's, "The Jilt," which had not been seen here for several years. Miss Tyler made a charming and vivacious Kitty, and George D. Parker was delightful as Myles O'Hara. Wilson Melrose further displayed his capabilities as an actor in the role of Sir Budleigh. His acting thus far in Miss Tyler's company has merited praise. He has a good presence, a melodious voice and is considered good looking. But after witnessing his performances during the past two weeks The latter, however, was the only field one feels inclined to remark on one of dramatic endeavor attempted by her thing that Mr. Melrose has persistently affected-that heavy, black, droop- These two sisters both won success on the ing stage mustache, which he sticks onto his upper lip in his make-up for gen- of their ancestors had anything to do with tlemanly roles. It makes him look as though he were in training for deep-dyed villain theatrical folk in any sense of the word. parts. Of course, Mr. Melrose is wholly within his rights in wearing the big mustache-or a bigger one if possible, for that matter-should he insist on doing so, but when he is playing genteel roles with such addition to his facial features he must not expect children or timid persons to come up and eat out of his hand, for the artificial hirsute gives him an ominous and sinister appearance and effectually disguises a countenance that naturally is very pleasant and agreeable to look upon.

The National Theater's regular season closed last night, contrary to expectations of a week ago, and the house will be dark all this week. The Majestic also closed its expect children or timid persons to come

all this week. The Majestic also closed its

afterward starred in this play, along with other sentimental plays and emotional places of the French school. In 'Frisco Miss Lewis became an actress anageress, first taking the little Standard Theater in Bush street, then the California Theater, and finally, after a tour to Australia, the Alcazar.

After the death of her husband, the late Harry Main Hall, a well-known actor. Miss Lewis lost love for the glamour of starring and during recent years she has been associated with the leading companies of Charles Frohman. Up until last year the has rever been seen in a bluck face. of Charles Fromman. Up until last year she had never been seen in a black face part or in musical farce. She then attempted both with success. She appeared in "Easy Dawson," the musical farce, in which Raymond Hitchcock opened his season, and afterward created the part of the negro mammy in "The Clansman."

OPPOSED TO THE STARRING SYS-TEM.-Ben Greet is an Englishman who has, for the past twenty years, occupied a unique position in the dramatic world of England, where he has maintained a school of acting and a superb Shakesperian company, which toured England, playing especially under the auspices of the universities. Mr. Greet was in the company which supported Mary Anderson when she appeared in London first, and he was also in the company which supported Lawrence Barrett on his first appearance in England. When "Jim the Penman" was first produced Mr. Greet played one of the lead-ing roles. He did not come to America until three years ago, when he brought "Ev-ery Man" to this country. Mr. Greet is considered one of the fors-

most champions of the non-starring system. To his mind the play is indeed the thing, and he has all his life fought the starring system, tooth and nail. His ideal of a company is one modeled after the fashion of the best German stock companies, where an actor may play Hamlet one nies, where an actor may play rannet one night, and a mere sailor or soldier the next. Everybody playing all sorts of parts is the ideal of the Greet system of man-agement, and it is one which he carries into effect, for he is a man who has the strength of his convictions. There are talented members of Ben Greet's company, who, in some plays in repertoire, have important parts, while in others they merely "walk on." Individuality is sunk for the sake of the ensemble effect, and the wisdom of this is shown in the results ob-

Coming Attractions.

Columbia Theater. The third week of the spring and summer season at the Columbia Theater will open tomorrow evening under the auspices of Messrs. Luckett and Standing, with the Columbia Theater company in a revival of "Lord and Lady Algy," the Carton comedy that is considered one of the modern stage successes. Every effort has been made to make the revival notable. Three members of the original cast will be seen in this week's presentation of the piece. Mr. Standing, leading man of the Columbia, created one of the original parts of "Lord and Lady Algy." Mr. Frank Brownlee, another member of the original cast, will